

finely punctured, and the pygidium and underside are strongly punctured.

The female is more finely punctured and almost devoid of setæ, with the head simple and slightly pointed in front. The prothorax is minutely and not closely punctured, without a median carina, and is rather more sharply angulated at the middle of the base. The elytra and underside are also more finely punctured than in the male.

The species is remarkable for the extraordinary structure of the antennæ characteristic of the male, which is quite unlike anything hitherto known. The last three joints of the footstalk are broad and close-fitting, and the seventh joint forms a hollow half-hemisphere, covering the two remaining joints as seen from beneath. The eighth joint sends off a slender branch on each side, and each branch is toothed underneath; and the last joint has a slender footstalk, which gives off two similar toothed branches on each side, diminishing in length, and is broad at the end, partly shutting in at the extremity of the antenna the whole complicated apparatus.

The antennæ of the female are quite normal.

A series of specimens, chiefly males, have been obtained by M. René Oberthür's collectors.

LI.—*On a remarkable Mountain Viscacha from Southern Patagonia, with Diagnoses of other Members of the Group.*
By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

THE British Museum owes to its generous and indefatigable contributor, Mr. J. A. Wolffsohn, C.M.Z.S., three examples of a fine *Viscaccia* * from a locality far south of any place where members of this group have been previously recorded. The animal is quite distinct from any hitherto known, and I

* In his paper on the nomenclature of this group, Dr. F. Lahille (An. Soc. Cient. Argent. lxii. p. 39, 1906) seems to have come to quite correct conclusions, including the allocation of *Viscaccia* to the Mountain Viscachas, formerly known as *Lagidium*. But with the fate that has as yet always befallen writers on this most difficult and complicated subject, he has made a mistake in crediting the name *Viscaccia* to Molina, for although the latter did say in 1810 that the animal ought to have a special generic name, he did not give it one, only using *Viscaccia* in such a way that it cannot be distinguished from the vernacular term. However, fortunately, Oken in 1816 used the term *Viscaccia* in a technically valid manner, with "*Lepus chilensis*" as its type, choosable as such whether by elimination or by the first-species rule.

propose to name it in honour of its donor, to whom the Museum is indebted for series of all the mammals of Central Chili.

Viscaccia Wolffsohni, sp. n.

A large species with long fur strongly suffused with orange; tail very bushy.

Size large, form stout and robust, the size appearing even larger than the truth owing to the very long rich fur, of which the wool-hairs are over 35 mm. in length and the long hairs upwards of 50 mm. General colour above of head and body approaching clay-colour (Ridgway), though brighter and clearer; the wool-hairs, which give the predominating colour, brownish slaty for four-fifths their length, their ends creamy buff darkening to clay-colour. Below, on the lower cheeks, throat, chest, and belly, the terminal colour becomes richer and redder, attaining almost to "tawny." A distinct white spot on each axilla and on each side of the inguinal region. Dorsal dark line little marked. Head like back. Ears comparatively short, thickly and closely haired, their backs black, their inner surfaces with whitish hairs, and there is a marked line of creamy-tipped hairs running across their bases above. Arms with tawny-tipped hairs, the tawny or yellowish colour extending to the tips of the toes. Hind limbs duller, more brownish clay-colour; the feet very large and heavy. Tail far finer than in any other form, immensely bushy, the hairs of its dorsal crest attaining over 150 mm.; in colour the upper, crested side is mixed black and buff or ochraceous buff; underside black, finely grizzled with glossy ochraceous buff.

Skull comparatively large and heavy; nasals expanded in front; palatal foramina rather short; bullæ not so much swollen as usual.

Dimensions of the type (measured in the flesh):—

Head and body 470 mm.; tail 305; hind foot 107; ear 65.

Skull: greatest length 91; basilar length 75.5; zygomatic breadth 50; breadth of brain-case on parietal bones 34.2; length of upper tooth series (crowns) 22.

Hab. Sierra de los Baguales y de las Vizcachas, lat. 50° 50' S., long. 72° 20' W., on the boundary between Chili and Argentina.

Type. Adult female. B.M. no. 7. 4. 5. 6. Original number 277. Collected 1st February, 1907, by Mr. John A. Wolffsohn. Three specimens.

In the interesting account which Mr. Wolffsohn has sent me of the capture of these specimens, he states that

“Mr. Ferrier, who owns a farm in that district, at the foot of Mount Payne, says that the Sierra de los Baguales is known to be the most southern part in which Viscachas occur, and between that range and much farther north there are none at all.”

The species is readily distinguishable from all other members of the genus by its large size, rich colour, long fur, immensely bushy tail, and short black ears.

With characteristic modesty Mr. Wolffsohn has suggested that the species should be named after Mr. McClelland, the President of his Company, to whom he owed the pleasure of his trip to Patagonia, but in view of the immense amount of help we have received from Mr. Wolffsohn, I have ventured to disregard his request, and to name this fine animal after him.

While working out *Viscaccia Wolffsohni* I have found the different races of this genus, of which the British Museum possesses a large number of specimens, to be both numerous and yet locally so constant as to deserve recognition by name. The fine series obtained by the late Mr. Perry O. Simons during his exploration of the Andes is especially rich in noteworthy forms.

As a preliminary I propose to give short diagnoses of such as I believe to be new, hoping to return to the subject later, when still further material is available.

Of the old names:—

Viscaccia viscaccia, Molina, is the large deep grey animal from the Chilian Andes, with a short ill-defined dorsal line, yellow belly, the tail with long grey crest and with its underside, although blackish, not sharply defined black.

V. Cuvieri, Benn., and, more doubtfully, *V. pallipes*, Benn., appear both to be referable to a strongly yellowish form found in Northern Chili, localized specimens from Iquique and Tarapacá being in the Museum.

V. peruana, Meyen, I cannot certainly identify, as of none of the specimens before me can it be said that “auf dem Bauche, besonders zwischen den hintern Extremitäten, sind die Haare zierlich weiss gefärbt,” all having the belly of a more or less yellow colour, which is generally deepest in the inguinal region. Some form agreeing with Meyen's description will no doubt yet be found.

In the absence of exact knowledge of the local relationship of the different forms to each other, I provisionally use binomial names for all.

Viscaccia inca, sp. n.

Pale grey (between grey no. 8 and smoke-grey), without or with very faint trace of dorsal stripe. Wool-hairs about 30 mm. Belly well-defined pale yellow, the axillary white spots distinct. Feet creamy white. Tail not sharply bicolor, the underside only slightly darkened proximally.

Hind foot (on skin) 85 mm.; skull, greatest length 81.

Hab. Junin, Peru. Type from Incapirca, Zezioro.

Type. Adult female. B.M. no. 94. 8. 6. 20. Collected by J. Kalinowski, 8th May, 1890. Three specimens.

Viscaccia arequipæ, sp. n.

Posterior body grey like *V. inca*, but the fore-back and shoulders more buffy. Dorsal line present, though inconspicuous. Wool-hairs of back about 30 mm. Under surface pale yellow. Feet white. Tail distinctly and sharply bicolor, the under surface and end black.

Hind foot (measured fresh) 92 mm.; skull, greatest length 79.

Hab. Sumbay, near Arequipa. Alt. 4000 m.

Type. Subadult male. B.M. no. 0. 10. 1. 93. Collected 4th July, 1900, by P. O. Simons. Four specimens.

Viscaccia subrosea, sp. n.

The grey distinctly suffused with pinkish buff, the resulting general colour approaching "broccoli-brown." Dorsal line scarcely perceptible. Under surface inclined to pink, nearest to "salmon-buff." Feet pinkish buff. Tail not very sharply bicolor, although more so than in *V. inca*.

Hind foot (fresh) 85 mm.; skull, greatest length 77.

Hab. Galera, W. of Oroya, Dept. Lima. Alt. 4800 m.

Type. Adult female. B.M. no. 0. 7. 7. 53. Collected 24th February, 1900, by P. O. Simons. Four specimens.

Viscaccia saturata, sp. n.

Colour much darker than in the previous species, an olive-grey nearly as dark as Ridgway's "olive," sometimes marbled with black along the dorsal area; no distinct dorsal line. Wool-hairs about 26-27 mm. in length. Under surface cream-buff. Feet white. Tail distinctly bicolor, the under surface glossy black. Skull broader than usual, the nasals much swollen.

Hind foot (fresh) 95 mm.; length of skull 80.

Hab. Limbane, Inambari, Dept. Puno. Alt. 3500 m.

Type. Adult male. B.M. no. 1.1.1.52. Collected 26th July, 1900, by P. O. Simons. Three specimens.

Viscaccia punensis, sp. n.

Size small. Colour more brownish grey, the area across the shoulders specially brown. Dorsal line fairly distinct. Wool-hairs about 24 mm. Under surface dull creamy whitish, the brown basal part of the hairs less hidden than usual. Axillary white spots well marked. Feet white. Tail sharply bicolor, the light part of the crest nearly white; the under surface and end black.

Hind foot (on skin) 90 mm.; length of skull 76.5.

Hab. Puno, Lake Titicaca. Alt. 3800 m.

Type. Adult female. B.M. no. 97.10.3.51. Collected 1st April, 1896, by J. Kalinowski. Six specimens.

Viscaccia cuscus, sp. n.

Size large. Colour deep grey, about grey no. 5; dorsal line very distinct, black, about 300 mm. in length. Wool-hairs about 23 mm. Under surface "buff" or "pinkish buff"; axillary white patches unusually large. Feet cream-colour. Tail grizzled grey, not markedly bicolor, the proximal part of the under surface above blackish.

Hind foot (fresh) 102 mm.; length of skull 91.

Hab. Paratani, Bolivia (about 66° W., 17° 5' S). Alt. 2600 m.

Type. Adult female. B.M. no. 2.1.1.104. Collected 9th April, 1901, by P. O. Simons. One specimen.

Viscaccia lutea, sp. n.

Colour between cream-buff and clay-colour; dorsal line fairly distinct, about 150 mm. in length; wool-hairs about 29-30 mm. Under surface cream-buff; the axillary spots well marked. Feet creamy. Tail bicolor, the upper crest mixed with blackish.

Hind foot (on skin) 95 mm.; length of skull 85.

Hab. Esperanza, Sahama, Bolivia. Alt. 4000 m.

Type. Adult male. B.M. no. 98.3.16.22. Collected 12th May, 1897, by Gustav Garlepp. Four specimens.

Viscaccia perlutea, sp. n.

Like *V. lutea*, but the colour throughout a richer buffy. Face clearer grey. Dorsal line very strong, nearly 200 mm.

in length; wool-hairs about 28 mm. Under surface rich buff instead of cream-buff. Feet cream-buff. Tail bicolor, not sharply defined, the light hairs of the crest yellowish, instead of the usual greyish white.

Hind foot (fresh) 100 mm.; length of skull 82.

Hab. Pampa Aulliaga, Bolivia (67° W., 19° 30' S.). Alt. 3800 m.

Type. Adult male. B.M. no. 2. 2. 2. 89 bis. Collected 22nd October, 1901, by P. O. Simons. Two specimens.

Viscaccia tucumana, sp. n.

Colour clear grey, with scarcely a trace of drab; dorsal stripe short, fairly distinct, rather over 100 mm. in length. Hairs of back about 24 mm. in length. Under surface buff and cream-buff; the axillary white spots distinct. Feet creamy. Tail not markedly bicolor; the crest intermixed black and greyish white, the underside black proximally, greyer distally.

Hind foot (on skin) 91 mm.; length of skull 85.

Hab. Cumbre de Mala-Mala, Sierra de Tucuman. Alt. 3000 m.

Type. Adult female. B.M. no. 5. 10. 29. 6. Collected 10th April, 1904, by L. Dinelli. Six specimens.

LII.—*On the Occurrence of the Edible Dormouse (Genus Glis) in Sardinia.* By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

UP to the present time no trustworthy record has existed of the occurrence of the edible dormouse either in Sardinia or Corsica, such references to "Ghiri" as have been published possibly, indeed probably, referring to *Eliomys*.

From the palæontological list *Glis* is also absent*; but Dr. Forsyth Major has been good enough to inform me that he knows of an undoubted *Glis* from the Pleistocene of Corsica, a fact which has an important bearing on the question as to the really indigenous position of the animal I am about to describe.

The British Museum owes to Sr. Giuseppe Meloni, of Lanusei, Eastern Sardinia, a number of examples of a dormouse discovered by him in the neighbourhood of that place, and a careful comparison with a series of *Glis italicus* from various parts of Italy convinces me that the Sardinian form is distinct enough to require a name. I therefore propose to term it

* With the exception of a reference by Studiati in La Marmora's 'Geology of Sardinia,' and this may, again, be very possibly an *Eliomys*.